

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,EEC,BE

SUBJECT: BELGIAN SOCIALIST PARTY BUREAU CRITICIZES TINDEMANS REPORT

1. BELGIAN SOCIALIST PARTY BUREAU (PSB) AT WEEKLY MEETING JANUARY 12 ADOPTED EIGHT- POINT CRITICISM OF TINDEMANS REPORT TO EC ON UNIFICATION OF EUROPE. BUREAU CLAIMS REPORT DOES NOT LIVE UP TO HOPES EXPRESSED BY TINDEMANS AND HIS POLITICAL ENTOURAGE AND DIVERGES FROM FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVES OF REACHING TRUE POLITICAL UNION. FOLLOWING ARE SPECIFIC POINTS MADE:

(A) REPORT MAKES LITTLE MENTION OF MEANS FOR ACHIEVING CERTAIN OBJECTIVES.

(B) BUREAU SHARES "OPINION OF EUROPEAN COMMISSION" THAT DIVIDING COUNTRIES BETWEEN "STRONGER" AND "WEAKER" COULD HAVE DANGEROUS CONSEQUENCES FOR PRINCIPLE OF EUROPEAN UNIFICATION.

(C) REPORT PUTS TOO MUCH ACCENT ON EUROPEAN COUNCIL WITHOUT AT SAME TIME PROVIDING FOR "COMMUNITY PROCEDURES". THIS COULD FAVOR " GAULLIST CURRENT" AND AT SAME TIME PUT SMALL UNCLASSIFIED

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COUNTRIES AT GREATER DISADVANTAGE IN COMMUNITY.

(D) ON INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND EUROPEAN COMMISSION WOULD LOOSE INFLUENCE. EUROPEAN COMMISSION PARTICULARLY AFFECTED BY DELEGATION OF DECISION POWER TO COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AND SHARING INITIATIVE WITH EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT.

(E) REPORT DOES NOT GIVE ENOUGH EMPHASIS TO DEMOCRATIZATION OF EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS.

(F) IT ONLY PARTIALLY PROVIDES FOR UNIFICATION ON BASIS OF NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS OF EUROPEAN POPULATION, PARTICULARLY WORKERS.

(G) BUREAU ESTIMATES THAT ACCENT SHOULD BE PUT ON DEVELOPING EUROPEAN SOCIAL POLICY THROUGH TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE.

(H) ALL EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO HAVE COUNCIL OF EUROPE TAKE DEFINITIVE DECISION BY MARCH ON ORGANIZATION OF SIMULTANEOUS DIRECT ELECTIONS FOR THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IN 1978.

2. BUREAU ALSO DESIGNATED CO- PRESIDENTS ANDRE COOLS AND WILLY CLAES AS WELL AS EC COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT HENRI SIMONET AND LUCIEN RADOUX (DEPUTY IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES) TO REPRESENT PSB AT COPENHAGEN MEETING OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL.

3. PSB AND BELGIAN COMMUNIST PARTY CRITICISM OF THE TINDEMANS REPORT WERE ONLY THOROUGHLY NEGATIVE REACTIONS NOTED HERE IN WHAT WAS GENERALLY FAVORABLE RECEPTION BY BELGIAN PRESS AND POLITICAL QUARTERS.
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